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COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES
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WATER RESOURCES

Draft resolution proposed by the Chairman of the Committee on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution E/C.7/1991/L.3

The Committee on Natural Resources recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft resolution:

International Conference on Water and the Environment

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 44/228 of 22 December 1989 on the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, which will be convened in 1992,

Recalling also the Mar del Plata Action Plan 1/ resulting from the United Nations Water Conference held at Mar del Plata from 14 to 25 March 1977,

Noting with appreciation that the World Meteorological Organization, on behalf of the organizations of the United Nations system with programmes in fresh water that are represented on the Administrative Committee on Coordination Inter-Secretariat Group for Water Resources, will convene an

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1/ Report of the United Nations Water Conference, Mar del Plata, 14-25 March 1977, (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.77.II.A.12), chap. I.

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international Conference, at Government expert level, on Water and the Environment in January 1992 as part of the preparatory process for the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, and the kind offer of the Government of Ireland to host that Conference, hereinafter called the Dublin Conference,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 45/181 of 21 December 1990, and in this connection stressing the relevance for the Dublin Conference of the New Delhi Statement, adopted at the Global Consultation on Safe Water and Sanitation for the 1990s, held in New Delhi from 10 to 14 September 1990,

Welcoming the comprehensive documentation presented to the Committee on Natural Resources on integrated water resource development,

1. Stresses the need for an action-oriented outcome of the Dublin Conference in order to enable it to make significant contributions to the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development;

2. Recommends that in preparing for the Dublin Conference efforts should be made to prepare initiatives for integrated water resources development and management containing, where feasible, targets, timetables and cost-estimates in the form of:

- international action programmes, and

- possible guidelines in order to enable Governments to formulate their national action plans;

3. Affirms the vital importance of water as a finite and fragile resource as well as its effective development and management at appropriate administrative levels;

4. Calls upon the governing bodies and secretariats of relevant organizations of the United Nations system to submit, within their respective mandates and in close collaboration with Governments and the secretariats of the Dublin Conference and the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, substantive contributions to the Dublin Conference;

5. Invites all Governments to engage actively in the preparatory process leading up to the Dublin Conference and the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development and to contribute to that process;

6. Calls upon the Inter-Agency Steering Committee established by the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination Inter-Secretariat Group for Water Resources for the purpose of preparing for the Dublin Conference to take fully into account the views expressed by Governments throughout the preparatory process when preparing the documentation for the Dublin Conference;

7. Invites the Secretary-General of the World Meteorological Organization, as the convenor of the Dublin Conference, and on behalf of the participating United Nations agencies, to report to the Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development at its third session on the state of preparations for the Dublin Conference.